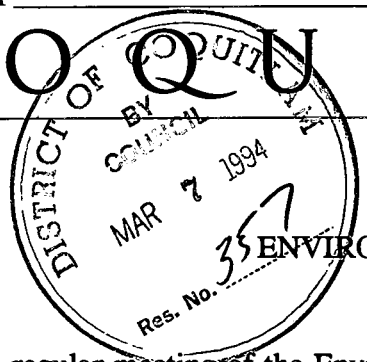
ENVIRONMENT

CITY OF

C O Q U I T L A M

503

Mayor L. Sekora



ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE MINUTES
FEBRUARY 14, 1994

A regular meeting of the Environment Committee of Council was held at 1500 h in the Committee Room, City Hall.

COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT:	STAFF:	PUBLIC:
Councillor Bill LeClair	Norm Cook	Myra Ross
Councillor Bill Melville	Neil Nyberg	
	Rosa Telegus	

The meeting was at 1506h by the Chair

ITEM I - MINUTES

That the minutes of 1993 May 10 be adopted.

ITEM II - BUSINESS ARISING FROM MINUTES

None

ITEM III - NEW BUSINESS

503-1 Site Profile Regulations

MOVED BY COUNCILLOR MELVILLE
SECONDED BY COUNCILLOR LECLAIR

That a copy of this report be referred to L. T. Hubbard, Director of Waste and Hazardous Contaminants Branch.

That Site Profile registration be compiled as attribute data on the City GIS, recorded under address file keys.

CARRIED

358

503-2 Provincial Strategy for Household Hazardous Waste

MOVED BY COUNCILLOR MELVILLE
SECONDED BY COUNCILLOR LECLAIR

COUNCIL ACTION

That Council support the Hazardous Waste Management measures outlined in "Greener Homes-Cleaner Communities", the report of the Provincial Waste Reduction Commission.

CARRIED

503-3 Sustainable Development

Presentation by Rosa Telegus, P. Eng.

MOVED BY COUNCILLOR MELVILLE
SECONDED BY COUNCILLOR LECLAIR

That Sustainable Development Criteria be utilized, where possible, in assessing projects.

CARRIED

503-4 Drinking Water Improvement Program

That this report be received for information

503-5 Stormwater Management Plan for the Coquitlam River

MOVED BY COUNCILLOR MELVILLE
SECONDED BY COUNCILLOR LECLAIR

COUNCIL ACTION

That Council authorize a staff feasibility study to determine whether a discharge management plan under the Provincial Waste Management Act is an appropriate vehicle to improve the Coquitlam River.

That Council invite participation from GVRD, Provincial and Federal Government ministries, business, municipal and public representation to assist in the feasibility study.

That Terms of Reference for the feasibility study be developed by 1994 March 30.

CARRIED

503-6 Committee Goals and Objectives: 1994

The Chair indicated further discussion would be held at the next meeting.

ITEM IV - OTHER BUSINESS

None

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 1626H

h:eng:envir:mins0214

CITY OF

COQUITLAM

Mayor L. Sekora

ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE

AGENDA

DATE: Thursday, November 17th, 1994

TIME: 8:30 a.m.

LOCATION: Committee Room

I **MINUTES - February 14, 1994**

II **NEW BUSINESS**

1 Tree Preservation Bylaw
2 Environment Assessment Act

III **OTHER BUSINESS**

IV **TABLED ITEMS**

Draft Guidelines for Sustainability

V **ADJOURNMENT**

1111 BRUNETTE AVENUE, COQUITLAM, B.C. V3K 1E9 · PHONE: (604) 664-1400 FAX: (604) 664-1650

CITY OF

COQUITLAM

503

Mayor L. Sekora

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1111 BRUNETTE AVENUE, COQUITLAM, B.C. V3K 1E9 · PHONE: (604) 664-1400 FAX: (604) 664-1650

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The Chair indicated further discussion would be held at the next meeting.

ITEM IV - OTHER BUSINESS

None

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 1626H

h:eng:envir:mins0214

DRAFT
GUIDELINES FOR SUSTAINABILITY

September
1994

The Association of
Professional Engineers and Geoscientists
of the Province of British Columbia

Preface

This document on sustainability is the result of combined efforts of members of the Task Force on Sustainability. The document, including the proposed Guidelines and accompanying recommendations, therefore, reflects some concessions made by each individual Task Force member, who, in spite of differing opinions on specific points, share one common view: that the concept of sustainability is fundamental to our future work. It represents both a challenge and an opportunity for the Association, as the public will increasingly demand that someone assume leadership. Members of the Association are uniquely positioned through training and workplace involvement to take on that role.

Task Force Members:

Linda Thorstad, PGeo, *Chair;*
Chuck Gale, PEng;
Hugh Harris, PEng;
John Haythorne, PEng; and
Peter Jones, PEng

Summary

GUIDELINES FOR SUSTAINABILITY

Sustainability can be defined as a process or state that can be maintained indefinitely. Sustainability integrates three closely linked aspects: a viable economy, protection of the environment and social well-being.

Members are expected to adhere to the following guidelines.

Within the scope of a Member's task and work responsibility each Member, exercising professional judgment, shall:

1. **Develop and maintain an understanding of the principles of, and issues related to, sustainability.**
2. **Take into account the individual and cumulative social, environmental and economic implications.**
3. **Take into account the short- and long-term consequences.**
4. **Take into account the direct and indirect consequences.**
5. **Assess reasonable alternative concepts, designs and/or methodologies.**
6. **Seek appropriate expertise in areas where the Member's knowledge is inadequate.**
7. **Cooperate with colleagues, decision-makers and the public to apply the Principles of Sustainability.**

Members are well qualified, and therefore have a responsibility, to contribute to sustainability. The *Guidelines for Sustainability* will assist Members in making that contribution.

Table of Contents

Introduction

Sustainability can be defined as a process or state that can be maintained indefinitely. Sustainability integrates three closely linked aspects: a viable economy, protection of the environment and social well-being.

The Code of Ethics of the Association of Professional Engineers and Geoscientists of BC (APEGBC) states, in part, that Members shall:

> —*"act at all times... with fidelity to the public needs" (Preamble), and*
>
> —*"hold paramount the safety, health and welfare of the public; the protection of the environment..." (Section 14 (a) (1))*

These elements of the Code of Ethics (Appendix I) require Members to have regard for sustainability in their practice.

Sustainability is directly referenced in APEGBC's Guidelines for Professional Excellence:

> *"Members should demonstrate their commitment to society by maintaining and promoting a high level of professionalism and excellence in their activities.*
>
> *Through their many professional and private activities, Members guide society in making choices. Given that these choices can have far-reaching consequences for society, Members must explore and promote economic, social, political and environmental solutions and directions that promote a broad concept of 'sustainability'."*

To put sustainability in context, the world's population has doubled over the past 40 years and industrial activity has increased sevenfold in that same period. The impacts of population growth and related industrial activity are being experienced at global, national, provincial and local levels. There is a diversity of opinion about the state of our environment and our ability to sustain present growth. There is, however, increasing agreement that current practices have resulted in significant problems today, and will continue to do so unless answers to these problems are found very soon.

For many problems of the past, Members of our professions have found answers and made significant contributions to the economy, the environment and society. For the present and future, the knowledge and training of Members enables them to provide comprehensive information upon which decisions that will lead to sustainability can be made. If we fail to rise to this challenge our professions may be bypassed by society, whereas taking a leadership role on sustainability will benefit not only society but will enhance the prestige of the professions. The *Guidelines* in this document, if adopted by the Members, will help them contribute to sustainability.

Principles of Sustainability

The Principles, as drafted by the Task Force, flow from the work of the BC and National Round Tables on the Environment and the Economy and many other studies and writings. They further define sustainability.

The following Principles represent fundamental values that are increasingly being adopted by our society.

APEGBC and its Members should recognize the significance of sustainability by adopting the following principles:

- Limit our impact on the living world so as to stay within its carrying capacity.
- Protect and, where appropriate, restore the environment, including biological diversity.
- Manage our resources through good stewardship.
- Foster a viable economy.
- Promote and foster social well-being.
- Promote learning for productive change.
- Use and promote informed decision-making processes, at all levels, that are fair, comprehensive, integrated and open to all affected or interested parties.
- Promote values, actions, incentives and enforcement mechanisms that support sustainability.

Guidelines for Sustainability

The following *Guidelines for Sustainability* will assist Members to apply the Principles of Sustainability to their practice. The *Guidelines* are intended to be applicable to the practice of engineering and geoscience, but not specific to any one discipline. Members are encouraged to develop specific guidelines or checklists for their discipline-specific tasks. An example checklist is presented in Appendix II.

Members must exercise professional judgment in adhering to the *Guidelines* and are not expected to apply them without that qualification. Members must also attempt to achieve a balance between competing interests and objectives.

Members are well qualified, and therefore have a responsibility, to contribute to sustainability. The objective of the following *Guidelines for Sustainability* is to assist Members in making that contribution.

Within the scope of a Member's task and work responsibility each Member, exercising professional judgment, shall:

1. **Develop and maintain an understanding of the principles of, and issues related to, sustainability.**
2. **Take into account the individual and cumulative social, environmental and economic implications.**
3. **Take into account the short- and long-term consequences.**
4. **Take into account the direct and indirect consequences.**
5. **Assess reasonable alternative concepts, designs and/or methodologies.**
6. **Seek appropriate expertise in areas where the Member's knowledge is inadequate.**
7. **Cooperate with colleagues, decision-makers and the public to apply the Principles of Sustainability.**

Amplification of Guidelines

Scope of a Member's Task

"Within the scope of a Member's task and work responsibility each Member, exercising professional judgment, shall:"

This preamble to the *Guidelines* emphasizes that the *Guidelines* apply **within the scope of a Member's task and work responsibility.**

No individual Member can be expected to assume responsibility for incorporating the Principles of Sustainability on work or projects beyond those for which the Member is responsible. For example, a Member who is part of a design team cannot be responsible for the entire project, if the Member's scope of authority is limited. Members are, however, responsible for their own work and should express their view regarding the Principles of Sustainability, relative to the project, to the design team.

The preamble to the *Guidelines* also emphasizes that their application is a **matter of professional judgment.** As in all matters, incorporating the Principles of Sustainability will require balancing competing interests. The *Guidelines* are not intended to remove or limit that need to exercise professional judgement.

While incorporating the Principles of Sustainability is a matter of judgement, consideration of the Principles themselves is not. As Members carry out and perform their tasks, they should consider the Principles of Sustainability.

Compliance with the *Guidelines* will, in certain instances, require more work and it is anticipated that additional professional fees and costs will be required. It is intended that the *Guidelines* will assist Members to convince clients and employers that such additional services are required as part of the proper practice of professional engineering and geoscience.

Guideline # 1

Within the scope of a Member's task and work responsibility each Member, exercising professional judgment, shall ***develop and maintain an understanding of the principles of, and issues related to, sustainability.***

Each Member should develop an understanding of the Principles of Sustainability.

Many Members have an understanding of, and support, the individual elements of sustainability, but are not comfortable with relationships between these elements. Achieving sustainability requires an understanding of the complex relationships between each of the three aspects of sustainability.

Sustainability is not a "fixed" condition. Our understanding of sustainability will evolve as our appreciation and understanding of natural, economic and social systems and their interrelationships develops through practice. It is incumbent upon each Member to maintain an understanding of issues related to sustainability.

Guideline # 2

Within the scope of a Member's task and work responsibility each Member, exercising professional judgment, shall ***take into account the individual and cumulative social, environmental and economic implications.***

In the past, the world could be simply compartmentalized within nations, within sectors (eg, energy, agriculture, trade, etc.) and within broad areas (environmental, economic and social). Today it is increasingly clear that all disciplines, sectors and areas are interrelated. For example, construction and operation of a riverside industrial plant may produce beneficial products and create jobs, but cause some environmental degradation.

Members can no longer limit their considerations to technical issues. For each task, all implications, from negligible to significant, should be considered. Additionally, known and reasonably foreseeable cumulative implications must be considered.

While no sustainability principle should be infringed without clear justification, there will be times when compromise between these principles is necessary. For example, there may be short-term economic costs in supporting communities or environmental conditions. Declining environmental conditions on a local level may be accepted until social or economic conditions improve in another case. In yet another case, initiatives aimed at improving living standards and community welfare may be foregone or compromised so that essential ecological systems are not lost.

Guideline # 3

Within the scope of a Member's task and work responsibility each Member, exercising professional judgment, shall ***take into account the short- and long-term consequences.***

Consequences will flow from all stages of a project, including commissioning, operation and decommissioning. All of these should be considered.

Guideline # 4

Within the scope of a Member's task and work responsibility each Member, exercising professional judgment, shall ***take into account the direct and indirect consequences.***

Decisions for sustainability require not only a consideration of the consequences of the proposed action, but the consequences of its products and byproducts, including their disposal. Additionally, it is important to consider the full costs and benefits of any proposed action.

Guideline # 5

Within the scope of a Member's task and work responsibility each Member, exercising professional judgment, shall ***assess reasonable alternative concepts, designs and/or methodologies.***

There is almost always more than one way to perform a task. The purpose of exploring alternatives is to encourage consideration of processes or options that best support the Principles of Sustainability.

A Member is not obliged to assess all "concepts, designs and methodologies", only those that are deemed reasonable under the circumstances of the task. In making a determination of what is "reasonable", a Member is expected to exercise professional judgment.

Guideline # 6

Within the scope of a Member's task and work responsibility each Member, exercising professional judgment, shall ***seek appropriate expertise in areas where the Member's knowledge is inadequate.***

Depending on the scope of a Member's task and responsibility, a Member may identify issues that are relevant and important to the implementation of the Principles of Sustainability, but that are beyond the Member's own expertise. In such a case, this *Guideline requires that the Member take reasonable steps to have a person with the appropriate expertise consider those issues, and provide comment and opinion as part of the information to be considered by the client or other decision-maker.*

Guideline # 7

Within the scope of a Member's task and work responsibility each Member, exercising professional judgment, shall ***cooperate with colleagues, decision-makers and the public to apply the Principles of Sustainability.***

Members have a duty to be proactive in assisting others to implement the Principles of Sustainability.

Members have unique qualifications to provide key information, analysis and judgment which others need in order to make informed decisions. While not always required by these *Guidelines* to take the lead in these matters, Members must recognize situations where their silence may be of disservice to the community and come forward to provide comment and opinion.

This duty does not require a Member to breach other professional duties, such as the duty of confidentiality to a client or employer, but where there is such a conflict these *Guidelines* require that the Member attempt to resolve the conflict for the benefit of the public by, for example, seeking permission from the engineer, geoscientist, client or employer to disclose the confidential information that, in the Member's professional judgment, should be made public as part of informed decision-making.

This *Guideline* also requires that a Member guard against, and take appropriate steps with respect to, use by the public of only part of, or distortions of, engineering or geoscience opinions or reports, in support of a position or decision, when full and accurate disclosure might lead to a different conclusion.

Finally, this *Guideline* highlights the professional requirement that Members have a duty to exercise their professional judgment objectively and evenly, and not in a predetermined attempt to support a given conclusion or result. Honest differences of technical opinion among Members are to be expected because the matters are not subject to easy analysis, and open debate among such Members may be healthy and helpful to decision-makers, but care must be taken not to be too closely aligned with a client or employer. The public and the Association will be best served if Members maintain objectivity.

Appendix I – Code of Ethics

The purpose of the Code of Ethics is to give general statements of the principles of ethical conduct in order that Professional Engineers and Professional Geoscientists may fulfill their duty to the public, to the profession and their fellow members.

Professional Engineers and Professional Geoscientists shall act at all times with fairness, courtesy and good faith to their associates, employers, employees and clients, and with fidelity to the public needs. They shall uphold the values of truth, honesty and trustworthiness and safeguard human life and welfare and the environment. In keeping with these basic tenets, Professional Engineers and Professional Geoscientists shall:

(1) hold paramount the safety, health and welfare of the public, the protection of the environment and promote health and safety within the workplace;

(2) undertake and accept responsibility for professional assignments only when qualified by training or experience;

(3) provide an opinion on a professional subject only when it is founded upon adequate knowledge and honest conviction;

(4) act as faithful agents of their clients or employers, maintain confidentiality and avoid a conflict of interest but, where such conflict arises, fully disclose the circumstances without delay to the employer or client;

(5) uphold the principle of appropriate and adequate compensation for the performance of engineering and geoscience work;

(6) keep themselves informed in order to maintain their competence, strive to advance the body of knowledge within which they practice and provide opportunities for the professional development of their associates;

(7) conduct themselves with fairness, courtesy and good faith towards clients, colleagues and others, give credit where it is due and accept, as well as give, honest and fair professional comment;

(8) present clearly to employers and clients the possible consequences if professional decisions or judgments are overruled or disregarded;

(9) report to their association or other appropriate agencies any hazardous, illegal or unethical professional decisions or practices by engineers, geoscientists, or others; and

(10) extend public knowledge and appreciation of engineering and geoscience and protect the profession from misrepresentation and misunderstanding.

Appendix II – Example Checklist

Members must apply professional judgment as to the relevancy and application of guidelines and are encouraged to develop their own checklist as a function of their unique discipline and the specific task. Members may be responsible for only a part or for the whole of a particular project. A checklist can be used to determine, to the best of each individual's ability, the extent to which a particular task meets the principles of sustainability. The following represents **an example checklist** that would developed by a professional engineer or geoscientist to comply with the guidelines and apply the principles of sustainability. The checklist addresses the assessment, design optimization (feasibility), commissioning, operation and decommissioning stages.

Assessment

1. Describe the proposed development, its products and byproducts.
2. Describe the reason or need for the proposal and the degree of urgency.
3. Prepare a "sustainability assessment" of the development, its products and byproducts including:
   - — technical, economic, social and environmental impacts at each stage (commissioning, operating and decommissioning),
   - — all beneficial and adverse effects, their probability, duration and degree of reversibility,
   - — whether impacts are of local or broader significance, and
   - — an appraisal of fiscal and non-fiscal costs and benefits and their degree of certainty.
4. Consider and assess the cumulative impacts of the development.

Design Optimization

5. Consider alternatives and compare with the effects of the proposed development.

Commissioning and Operation

6. Describe design parameters introduced to meet sustainability principles and how they will be monitored.

Decommissioning

7. Describe measures that will ensure that development, operation and decommissioning will address the principles of sustainability.

Notes

Your comments are invited.
Please forward to:
Linda Thorstad, PGeo
Chair, Task Force on Sustainability
APEGBC
210 - 6400 Roberts Street
Burnaby, BC V5G 4C9

The Association of
Professional Engineers and Geoscientists
of the Province of British Columbia

SUM
news
THE LATEST LEGAL SCOOP FROM
SINGLETON URQUHART MACDONALD

NOVEMBER 2, 1994

NEW B.C. & CANADIAN ENVIRONMENTAL LAW DEVELOPMENTS

In recent months there have been significant developments in B.C. and Canadian environmental law. In B.C., the Ministry of Environment, Lands and Parks (the "Ministry") released a new consolidated version of the Contaminated Sites Regulation ("CSR") under the *Waste Management Amendment Act, 1993,* formerly known as Bill 26 ("Bill 26") on August 31, 1994. On October 11, 1994, the Ministry also released a new proposal for draft regulations under the *B.C. Environmental Assessment Act* ("BCEAA") providing for threshold limits of projects subject to environmental assessment under the BCEAA.

On the federal scene, on October 6, 1994, the Minister of Environment, the Honourable Sheila Copps, announced that the *Canadian Environmental Assessment Act* ("CEAA") will be proclaimed in January, 1995. The Government also plans three major amendments to the CEAA. In addition, on October 19, 1994, the Department of the Environment gazetted four key regulations under the CEAA.

NEW CONSOLIDATED B.C. CONTAMINATED SITES REGULATION

The previously released CSR draft instalments have been consolidated in a new draft with important revisions. The key changes in Draft 2 include deletion of the former Schedule 3 and associated site profile triggers thereby simplifying the site profile process. The CSR now includes new exemptions from site- cleanup liability for sureties issuing performance or bid bonds, for landowners and for transporters, contractors and consultants. There are also clarifications of provisions relating to receivers and secured creditors. Furthermore, contaminated soil below three metres from the surface need not be remediated beyond industrial land standards.

Some controversial provisions of the previous draft CSR, however, have not been removed. For example, strict soil remediation standards remain in the new CSR. Knowledgeable critics have expressed concerns that these standards are overly conservative and are not based on scientific rationale.

The Ministry has also extended the time for comment on the consolidated draft regulations beyond September 30, 1994. It is uncertain at the present time whether Bill 26 and the CSR will be proclaimed on January 1, 1995 as previously expected. There have been some indications from Victoria that the proclamation may be delayed again to permit further consultation.

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NEW B.C. ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT ACT DRAFT REGULATION

The BCEAA was passed in June, 1994 and is expected to come into force in mid-February, 1995. Work is still proceeding on the regulations. The new October 11, 1994 proposals have revised size thresholds for reviewable projects. They also show the estimated number of anticipated reviewable projects per year, compare the thresholds with those in other jurisdictions and give examples of existing projects in B.C. which would be classified as reviewable projects.

CANADIAN ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT ACT REGULATIONS

The CEAA was passed in June, 1992, and is now expected to come into force in mid-January, 1995. The four key CEAA regulations gazetted on October 19, 1994 are the Comprehensive Study List, the Law List, The Exclusion List and the Inclusion List. After revision since their first release in September, 1993, the regulations are expected to come into force with the CEAA in January, 1995.

The Comprehensive Study List, which includes projects to be subject to mandatory environmental review, has been strengthened by lowering inclusion thresholds, thereby subjecting more projects to comprehensive study. The Law List, which sets out the statutory triggers for federal environmental review, has been revised to bring the number of CEAA triggers to 190.

In her October 6 announcement, the Minister also described three proposed amendments to the CEAA which will (1) legally entrench the participant funding program; (2) require a Cabinet decision to respond to the recommendations of independent environmental assessment panels; and (3) confirm the principle of one project/one assessment in the CEAA.

In addition to federal projects, any proposed operations in British Columbia which require federal funds, lands or approvals - particularly those activities with potential impact on fisheries waters - will probably be subject to federal environmental review under the CEAA. It is probable also that such projects will be reviewable under the provincial BCEAA.

The B.C. and federal governments hope to negotiate an environmental review harmonization agreement. For B.C. investors, however, when these Acts and regulations come into force, there will be potential duplication and increased development costs due to these new stringent - and often overlapping - federal and provincial environmental assessment requirements.

IF YOU REQUIRE A COPY OF ANY OF THE ABOVE STATUTES OR REGULATIONS OR HAVE ANY QUESTIONS CONCERNING THE IMPACT OF THESE ENVIRONMENTAL STATUTES OR REGULATIONS ON YOU, PLEASE CONTACT JAMES M. MACKENZIE, DR. JANE INGMAN-BAKER OR JOHN SINGLETON OF OUR VANCOUVER OFFICE AT 682-7474.

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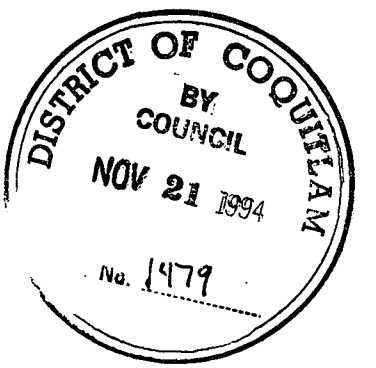
A regular meeting of the Environment Committee of Council was held at 0855 h in the Committee Room, City Hall.

COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT:



Councillor Bill LeClair
Councillor Bill Melville

STAFF:

Norm A.Cook, City Manager
Neil Nyberg, City Engineer
Rosa Telegus, Engineer Environment and Development
Mike Iviney, Supervisor, Environment Section
Anna Caltagirone, Tree Permit Technician

ITEM I - NEW BUSINESS

507-2 Tree Task Force

A report by Anna Caltagirone on the progress and draft recommendations of the inter-departmental task force on tree retention and replacement was received by the Committee.

507-3 Comments from UBCM on the proposed Environmental Protection Act

This report was tabled for information.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 0915 h.